

Appendix A Marked-up Copy of Amended Claims

1. (Amended) A gel composition, comprising:

an ester compound; and

a polymer compound selected from the group consisting of triblock copolymers, star polymers, radial polymers, multi-block copolymers, and combinations thereof.

wherein the gel composition is substantially free of mineral oils, wherein the ester is represented by one of the following formulas:

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\
\parallel \\
\left[R_1 - C - O\right]_{n} - R_2
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix}
R_1 - O - C \\
\end{bmatrix}_n R_2$$

<u>or</u>

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
O & \parallel \\
R_4 - O - C - R_7 \\
 & O \\
R_5 - O - C - R_8 \\
 & O \\
 & R_6 - O - C - R_9
\end{array}$$

wherein n=1, 2, 3, and 4, and

R₁ includes hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, and substituted phenyl; R₂ includes hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, substituted phenyl, alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, and substituted phenylene, and R₃ includes alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, or substituted phenylene, and

wherein R_4 , R_5 , and R_6 individually include alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, or substituted phenylene, and R_7 , R_8 and R_9 individually include hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, and substituted phenyl.

- 2. (Amended) The gel composition of claim 1, further comprising a diblock copolymer, wherein the gel composition is substantially free of mineral oils.
 - 3. (Canceled)
 - 4. (Canceled)
 - 5. (Canceled)
 - 25. (Amended) A method of making a gel composition, comprising:

mixing an ester compound with a polymer compound selected from the group consisting of triblock copolymers, star polymers, radial polymers, multi-block copolymers, and combinations thereof,

heating the mixture;

agitating the mixture until the mixture becomes homogeneous; and cooling the mixture.

wherein the gel composition is substantially free of mineral oils, wherein the ester is represented by one of the following formulas:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C} & & & \\ \parallel & & \\ \mathbb{R}_{\mathbf{I}} - \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{O} \cdot \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{C} \end{bmatrix}_{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{2}}$$

<u>or</u>

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
O \\
R_4 - O - C - R_7 \\
O \\
R_5 - O - C - R_8 \\
O \\
R_6 - O - C - R_9
\end{array}$$

wherein n=1, 2, 3, and 4, and

R₁ includes hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, and substituted phenyl; R₂ includes hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, substituted phenyl, alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, and substituted phenylene, and R₃ includes alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, or substituted phenylene, and

wherein R_4 , R_5 , and R_6 individually include alkylene, phenylene, substituted alkylene, or substituted phenylene, and R_7 , R_8 and R_9 individually include hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, phenyl, methoxyphenyl, alkylphenyl, substituted alkyl, and substituted phenyl.